

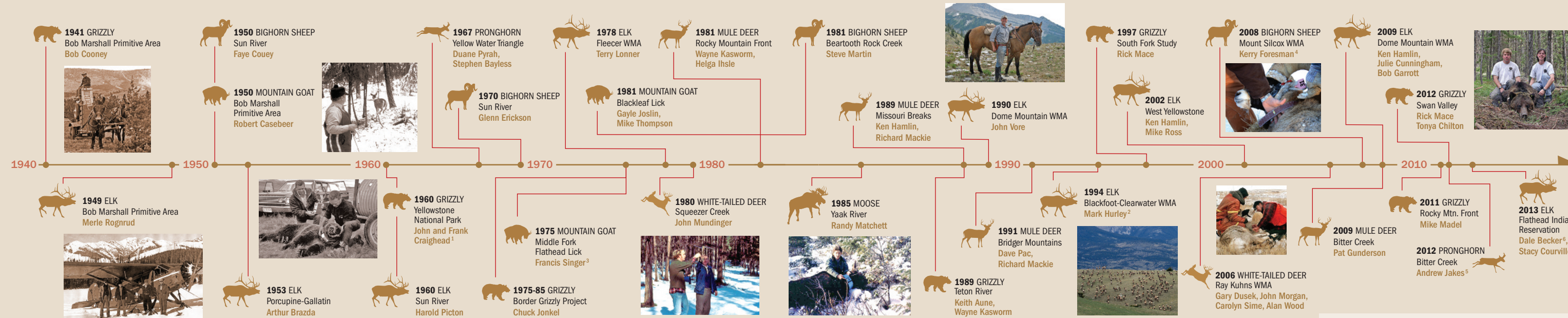
# Following Footprints

In 1945, Merle Rognrud, one of FWP's first wildlife biologists, looks for bighorn sheep in what is today the Bob Marshall Wilderness.

The timeline at right highlights significant research projects on big game movement by (unless indicated otherwise) FWP wildlife biologists working with Montana State University.

Pioneering biologists such as Bob Cooney, Merle Rognrud, Harold Picton, and Jerry Brown first documented migrations by following animals far into the backcountry on horseback or by foot or snowshoe. Before radiotelemetry, tracking individual big game animals was nearly impossible. Brown sometimes strung rope pendants with visible numbers around the necks of trapped bighorn sheep. After the animals were released, he would then climb steep mountains to see where they went. Sometimes the biologist would carry a ladder on his treks just to gain a few more feet in elevation to better view the wild sheep.

Other FWP biologists who conducted important big game migration studies over the past several decades include, but are not limited to, the names listed in the timeline shown at right and Eugene Allen, Vanna Boccadori, John Cada, John Carnes, Kerry Constan, Jim Cross, Nick DeCesare, Rich DeSimone, John Firebaugh, Arnold Foss, Mike Frisina, Adam Grove, Bob Henderson, Bernie Hildebrand, Richard Knight, Tom Lemke, Allan Lovaas, Gary Olson, Joel Peterson, Kelly Proffitt, Allen Schallenberger, Claire Simmons, Sonja Smith, Bruce Sterling, Shawn Stewart, Dwight Stockstad, Graham Taylor, Joe Weigand, Harold Wentland.



1. Independent research  
2. UM master's degree thesis  
3. Glacier National Park report  
4. University of Montana research  
5. University of Calgary Ph.D. thesis  
6. Confederated Salish Kootenai Tribes